

Farmers Have Town Clubhouse

By Jerle Davis

It is a place of comfort and convenience for country people who do their trading at Seymour, Indiana: : Similar enterprise would benefit any community in the nation

NOW it's a clubhouse for farmers! When they come to town to trade they may go to a well-appointed building to meet their friends, wash up, have lunch, write letters, enjoy telephone service and lounge around if they wish. And their wives may, besides having these privileges, leave the children in the care of a competent nurse while shopping or calling upon friends.

Quite a sensible, long-needed, modern convenience, don't you think?

Seymour, a southern Indiana city of about 7,000 population, has a farmers' club with a membership of more than 1,000. It has been in operation since October, 1914, and is a thorough success. During 1915 the average daily number of visitors to the club was about 150.

The existence of the club is due, the plain truth must be told, to the public spirit and generosity of two business men of Seymour and not to any special enterprise on the part of either the farmers or the citizens of the town. The Blisk brothers own a large flour mill and grain elevator. They are grandchildren of Capt. Meely W. Shields, founder of Seymour, himself a farmer of energy and vision, whose fortune it seems, was the best-kept secret of the Blisk estate. For many years the Blisk interests have dealt constantly and profitably with the farmers of Jackson county.

Why, reasoned the flour millers, wouldn't it be a fine thing to establish a club here in town for the farmers? They thought it would be—decidedly so—and out of their estate came funds which made the idea a fact in planning architecture and real convenience. Not only that, the maintenance of the club is assured by a paid-up income insurance policy. So the farmers should worry!

Much of Seymour's prosperity depends on the farmers living within a radius of 12 or 15 miles of the city, which is the metropolis of a county that is one of the most fertile in southern Indiana. For nearly three-quarters of a century the "rolling plowmen" and their wives have brought grain, fruit, vegetables, butter, eggs, and poultry to the town that Captain Shields started, and have taken home with them in the aggregate, a mighty pile of supplies during three-score years. Such a mighty pile, you might say, that the legitimate profits on it have helped to make a vigorous and pretty little city.

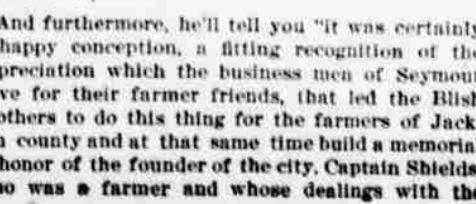
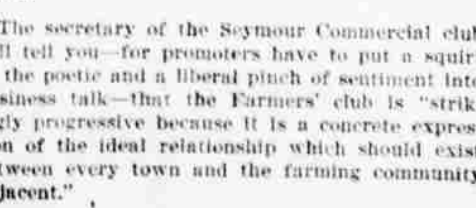
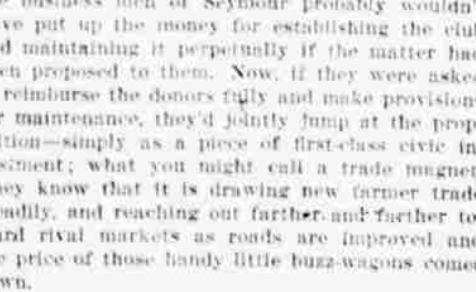
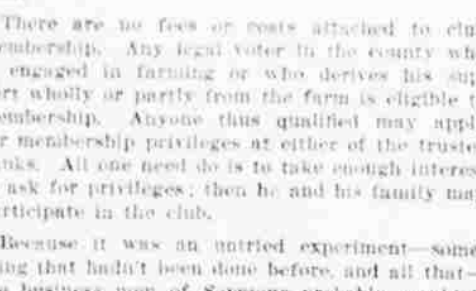
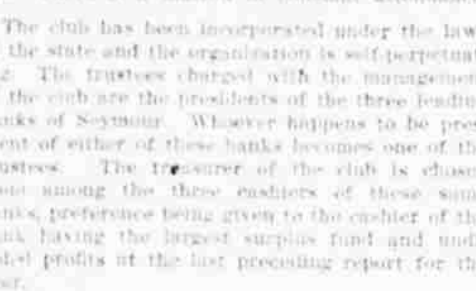
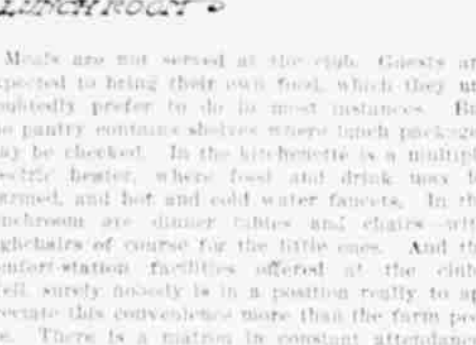
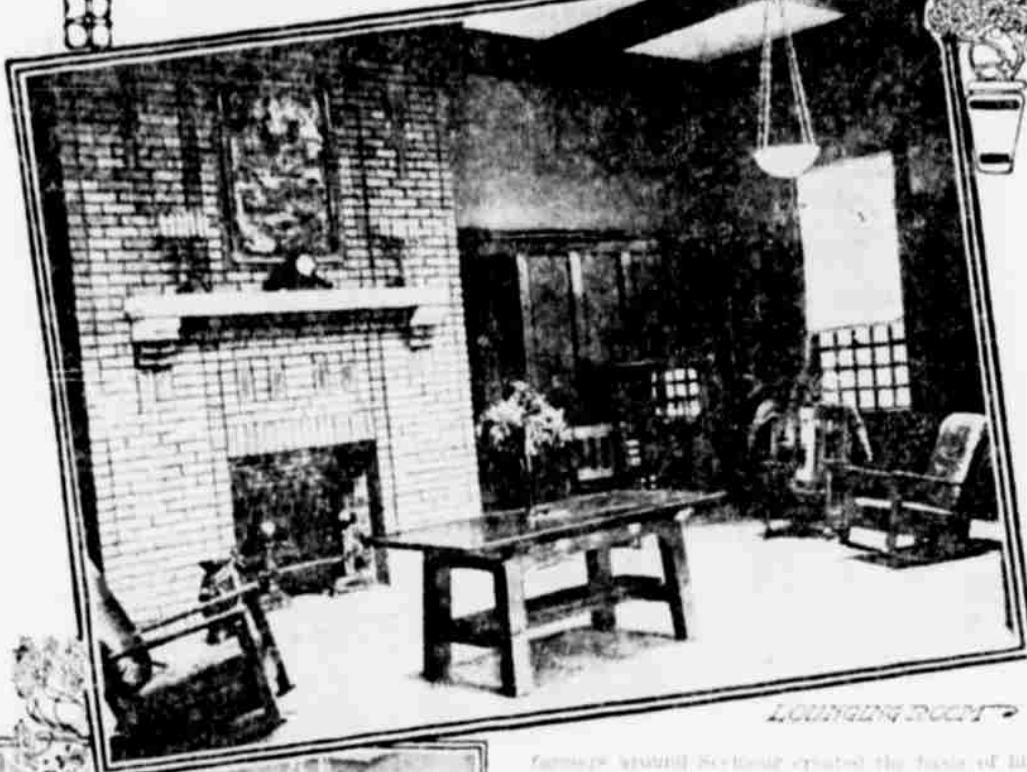
But until the time that Seymour's leading business men decided to recognize the value of farmer trade by putting up a clubhouse for the marketers, the country people certainly didn't enjoy the hospitality that good steady customers in most lines of commerce may expect nowadays. In fine weather they brought their lunch with them and ate it in their wagons parked in side streets, and in bad weather they bought crackers and cheese and bologna and munches it as they stood around the stoves or hot-air registers in the back of the stores where they sold butter and eggs. That wasn't so bad for the menfolk, but it was mighty inconvenient for the farm women, especially if they brought the children along to town, and often they did so.

Is it any wonder then that since the Farmers' Club of Jackson County has been receiving guests the merchants of surrounding towns within a reach of 12 and 15 miles in every direction are complaining that Seymour is getting the best of the country trade? Especially since the most prosperous farmers, and therefore the most profitable customers, own motorcars and can go fairly long distances over the well-paved roads?

The Farmers' club is good to look at. It is just as handsome in the face as the public library and the government building, and better looking than the city hall and the newest railway station at Seymour. You step into a paneled vestibule from the street when you enter the club. The vestibule gives into a large lounge room. Flanking the lounge room are two nurseries, toilet rooms, a lunchroom and kitchenette.

If you are a farmer who enjoys sliding down to the small of his back in a huge leather chair and toasting his shins before a great fireplace, who likes breathing space and dark oak paneling and a pile of magazines and books and some potted plants; who thinks it makes life more worth living if he can meet people of his own kind for a chat now and then, you would ride many miles to Seymour for half or three-quarters of an hour of loafing in that lounge room.

And if you are a farmer's wife who knows the drudgery of dragging small children around for hours from store to store; who knows what it is to seek in vain for a place of decent privacy where fretful toddlers can be cared for, weary feet rested and an aching back relieved with a brief rest on a lounge; who appreciates a place where a letter may be written in quiet, where a telephone is at hand, where a crib waits to welcome baby for a nap; who longs for an opportunity to talk with other country women, you would bring pressure to bear on the husband to do his marketing at Seymour. For the nurseries offer these comforts of women—reclining chairs, lounges, cribs.



Farmers' clubhouse Seymour created the basis of its fortune.

One of the Indiana colleges, which has an important agriculture department, has shown much interest in the Seymour enterprise. This school sends out special trains and agents and encourages and whets all over Indiana in line with its policy of making Hoosiers a people of scientific farmers, and these agents don't often overlook the opportunity of talking about Seymour's Farmers' club and what it is doing to make the city and its rural customers real business associates.

The word is going farther, too, than the farthest reaches of Indiana. Grange organizations, commercial clubs and agricultural colleges here and there all over the country are making inquiries of Seymour about the club. So besides making it easy for the rural neighbor to enjoy himself while trading there, Seymour is gathering to itself a stock of advertising valuable beyond computation.

What has been done in Seymour can be done in any other agricultural community in the United States. It isn't necessary that the club should be a memorial to anybody; nor that it should be a monument to the generosity and public spirit of one or two men, nor that it should be housed in a specimen of classic architecture. Four or six rooms would serve the purpose nicely, if converted properly to club uses. Those rooms might be found in a detached residence or on the second or third floor of a business block. The expenses might be prorated among the business men, and the farmers themselves might pay a modest initiation fee and nominal dues. Where there's a will there's a way—was the fellow said.

Anyhow, it sounds pretty pretty and up-to-date, doesn't it, to overlook one farmer say to his neighbor once Saturday morning in town: "Well, Ed, let's run over to the club and have a talk."

REMARKABLE TREE SURGICAL OPERATION.

Edward Pfeiffer, a tree surgeon of Charlottesville, Va., has, according to Illinois Farmer, completed the greatest tree-surgical operation ever attempted anywhere, and this has been done for Mr. John Armstrong, Chatterbox of Murgo Mills. The tree is just oak and is possibly three hundred years old. It is 24 feet in circumference, two feet above the ground, with a diameter of eight feet, four inches in its widest part. The recent felling was carried by the tree 33 feet from the surface and a cement log or post was imbedded five feet into the ground to support the tree in heavy winds. The material used was six wagonloads of sand, 12 loads of field stone, 28 bags of cement, 14 iron straps to re-enforce the concrete, 44 eyebolts and a roll of galvanized wire. So far the operation has been successful.

NOT LIKELY TO BE POPULAR.

A citizen of Columbus, O., has appeared on the streets lately with an outfit for seeing the time without removing his watch from his pocket. Great surprise was at first created by what was considered extreme singularity of conduct, and it took a good deal of explaining on his part to restore to himself public confidence. It seems, however, that the device is perfectly practicable, as it has been accepted by the patent office. Notwithstanding, most people will cling to the idea that a man who is too lazy to take out his watch to see the time deserves on general principles to be shot and it is very unlikely that the new invention will work its way into popular favor.—Exchange.

SOLDIERS MAY TRIM HATS.

Hat trimming is not generally required of young soldiers who go to war, yet many wounded soldiers at the Canadian sports day held recently at Grassmead Meadow, near Orpington, Kent, proved themselves so talented in the handicraft that after the victory is won, instead of going back to the land, some of them may set up millinery establishments in Canadian towns, equal to any branch of the famous Maison Lewis of New York, London and Paris.—Toronto Globe

BILIOUS, HEADACHY, SICK "CASCARETS"

Gently cleanse your liver and sluggish bowels while you sleep.

Get a 10-cent box. Sick headache, biliousness, diarrhea, coated tongue, foul taste and foul breath—always trace them to torpid liver; delayed fermenting food in the bowels or sour, rasy stomach. Poisonous matter clogged in the intestines, instead of being cast out of the system is re-absorbed into the blood. When this poison reaches the delicate brain tissue it causes congestion and that dull, throbbing, sickening headache. Cascarets immediately cleanse the stomach, remove the sour, undigested food and foul gases, take the excessive bile from the liver and carry out all the constipated waste matter and poisons in the bowels. A Cascaret tonight will surely straighten you out by morning. They work while you sleep—a 10-cent box from your druggist means your head clear, stomach sweet and your liver and bowels regular for months. Adv.

CAN'T GET BEAR OUT OF CAGE

Newly Arrived Bruin Presents Problem to the Attendants at Brooklyn Zoo.

How to get Brooklyn's new bear out of the cage that he came here to in one of the problems that is confronting the Brooklyn Zoo authorities according to the Eagle of that city. "The cage is so strong that it looks as if nothing less than dynamite would open it," one official explained. "It is made of very heavy planks, stacked together with chromium steel spikes. The cage was built by the same men who made Saragat's sailing vessels, the most durable in the world."

The difficulty of getting Bruin out of the cage led to a question as to how the Norwegian, who sold him, intended to get him out. The only hint in his case is that he is too big to get out of the cage without a lot of help.

"I guess they must have tried to get him out of the cage by using a lot of force and then built the cage around him," one of the Brooklyn Zoo officials said.

CUTICURA COMPLEXIONS

Are Usually Remarkably Soft and Clear—Trial Free.

Make Cuticura Soap your everyday toilet soap, and exfoliate your skin as needed by touches of Cuticura Ointment to soothe, soothe and heal. Nothing better to make the complexion clear, scalp free from dandruff and hands soft and white.

Free sample each by mail with Book. Address: postcard, Cuticura, Dept. L, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

She Simply Couldn't Refuse.

"Would you mind if I read you the smoking out door?" asked the bridegroom.

"What? To smoke cigarettes?" asked the bride.

"Your husband," replied the young husband. "I want to experience the joys of being away from you so that the joy of my return will be all the more intensified."

Important to Mothers

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, that famous old remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the

Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher* in Use for Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Paradoxical.

"Why didn't you let me be the question?"

"You should."

"What do you mean by that?"

"I mean that you should be the question."

"I mean that you should be the question."

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Do you know what's good for a cough, throat and lung troubles, that will allay inflammation and insure a good night's sleep with free and easy expectoration in the morning? The answer is always the same year after year, is

Bosch's German Syrup

Soothing and healing to bronchial and throat irritation, 25c and 75c. sizes all Druggists and Dealers everywhere. Your druggist used it 51 years ago. Try it yourself and see how it stops a hacking cough like magic.

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Don't fool with a cold. Cure it.

HILL'S CASCARA QUININE

The old family remedy—in tablet form—cures colds, coughs, croup, whooping cough, influenza, and all other respiratory troubles. It is a powerful tonic and builds up the system. It is a powerful tonic and builds up the system. It is a powerful tonic and builds up the system.

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